

SEP 13 2006

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A light quantity adjusting apparatus comprising:
a light-shielding member; and
a driving unit which drives the opening and / closing of the light-shielding member,
wherein the light-shielding member is provided with a reinforcement member attached
to a partial area including a portion liable to deterioration due to repeated opening and /
closing driving operations; and

wherein the light-shielding member comprises a first hole portion which forms a
fulcrum of rotation and a second hole portion which forms a point of action, and the
reinforcement member is provided around the first and second hole portions.

2. (Original) The light quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1, further
comprising a bump member which restricts the driving range of the light-shielding member
by colliding with the light-shielding member,

wherein the reinforcement member is provided in a portion in contact with the bump
member, of the light-shielding member.

3. (Original) The light quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1, further
comprising a base plate in which an aperture portion is formed,

wherein, in the reinforcement member an area which do not cover the aperture portion is larger than an area which covers the aperture portion when the light-shielding member is driven to open and close.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The light quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the driving unit is a motor, the rotor of the motor is provided with a first shaft provided at the center of rotation and a second shaft provided away from the center of rotation, the first shaft is inserted in the first hole portion and the second shaft is inserted in the second hole portion.

6. (Original) The light quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a base plate provided with an aperture portion and a shaft portion, and another light-shielding member,

wherein the other light-shielding member is provided with a first hole portion which forms a fulcrum of rotation and a second hole portion which forms a point of action, the shaft portion provided on the base plate is inserted in the first hole portion of the other light-shielding member and the second shaft provided in the rotor is inserted in the second hole portion of the other light-shielding member.

7. (Original) The light quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a base plate in which an aperture portion is formed,

wherein the light-shielding member is a shutter blade and closes to a position where it completely covers the aperture portion.

8. (Original) The light quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a base plate in which an aperture portion is formed,

wherein the light-shielding member is a diaphragm blade and closes to a position where it partially covers the aperture portion.

9. (Currently Amended) An image-pickup apparatus comprising:

an image-pickup element;

a light quantity adjusting apparatus which regulates the quantity of incident light which reaches the image-pickup element, the light quantity adjusting apparatus comprising a light-shielding member and a driving unit which drives the opening and / closing of the light-shielding member,

wherein the light-shielding member is provided with a reinforcement member in a partial area including a portion which is liable to deterioration due to repeated opening and / closing driving operations; and

wherein the light-shielding member comprises a first hole portion which forms a fulcrum of rotation and a second hole portion which forms a point of action, and the reinforcement member is provided around the first and second hole portions.